

## GOLF PUTTING ALIGNMENT SYSTEM

### TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention relates to the game of golf and more importantly to a golf putter having an alignment arrangement based on the position of the shaft over a centerline mark on the putter head.

### BACKGROUND

Putting plays an important role in a successful round of golf. In order to technically execute a proper putt a golfer must be properly positioned relative to the ball and to an intended line of the putt. A putter has a striking face, which should be aligned square to the desired path of the ball travel.

It is known that an alignment centerline is placed on the top surface of the putter to aid a golfer in positioning the face of a putter square to the target line of the putt. Typically, this centerline or aiming line is perpendicular to the face and is positioned at the desired area of putter to ball impact.

In addition to having the putter face aligned to the intended target line a golfer must be in the proper position relative to the ball to have proper golf techniques. The eyes of the golfer should be over the ball so that when the ball is struck the

It takes regular practice to develop a putting stance and stroke to propel a golf ball on its intended target line. Golfers of all skill levels have been shown to find this eye position and putter alignment difficult to maintain over time.

An object of the invention is to provide a putter that can be used to indicate when proper alignments have been attained for stroking a golf ball.

A putter that uses a shaft to facilitate alignment of a putter head and a golfer's head relative to a ball and a desired path of ball travel is shown, for example, in the following United States of America patent 5,564,990 - Weeks.

Though such a putter has achieved popularity and commercial success, there has been a continuing need for improvement.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the invention there is provided a golf putter having a putter head and an elongated putter shaft. The putter head has a striking face, a sole, a center line marker marking a center of gravity of said putter head, a toe normally positioned remote from a user when in play and a heel opposite said toe. The an elongated putter shaft has a grip on one end and, at an opposite end, attached to the putter head between the center line marker and the toe, the butter shaft having a transverse marking which lines up vertically with the center line marker on the

putter head when a user is holding the putter in a putting position with the golfer's eyes over the center line marker of the putter head.

Preferably, the center line marker is perpendicular to the striking face and is vertically aligned with the center of gravity of the putter head.

Advantageously, the putter shaft extends across the putter head from proximate the toe towards the heel at an acute angle with the sole of the putter head, crossing the center line of the putter head.

The transverse marking on the shaft marks the center of gravity of the shaft when the putter is in the putting position.

The putter shaft may extend up from putter head, when said putter is in the putting position and then angle towards the golfer.

In another aspect of the invention there is provided a method of aligning a putter and a golfer's eyes to a golf ball and a desired line of travel, which includes providing a putter which has a shaft attached proximate a toe of a putter head and at least a portion of which shaft angles back towards a golfer when the golfer and the shaft are in the putting position. The method further includes placing a center line marker over a center of gravity of the putter head, and placing a marker on an upper side

of the shaft of the putter which vertically aligns with the center line marker when the putter is in the putting position; and holding the putter in the putting position and then aligning a golfer's eyes with the aligned mark on the shaft and the center line mark on the putter head such that the putter head is perpendicular to the desired direction of travel of the golf ball.

The above object has been met by a golf putting alignment system that uses the shaft attached between the centerline mark and the toe of the putter head to facilitate proper alignment of the putter head and golfer's eyes relative to a ball and a desired path of ball travel.

Golf putting alignment system has a putter, which includes a head having a shaft portion on which an alignment mark is formed. This mark allows a golfer to use the club shaft in a manner to properly align the putter head relative to an intended path of ball travel and to align the golfer's eyes relative to the ball.

The shaft is attached to the putter head between the centerline mark and the toe of the head. The shaft is attached to the toe end of the head opposite to that of a conventional putter. The putter head is now closer to the golfer making it easier for the golfer to get over the putt. The shaft is at an acute angle to the heel position and extends directly over the length of putter head in direction away from the toe. Attaching the shaft in this

~~position causes the shaft to extend back over putter head, thus crossing the centerline mark on the head. It also makes the shaft run parallel to the face of the putter making it easier to square the face to the target line.~~

~~The centerline mark crosses the width of the putter. An alignment mark is placed on the top of the shaft directly over the position the shaft crosses the centerline mark.~~

~~A golfer lines the putter face at a right angle to the desired path the ball is to travel. Then aligns the alignment mark on the top of the shaft to the centerline mark on the head, the putter head becomes square to the target line and brings the golfer's eyes perpendicular over the putt as they should be. In effect, the club shaft is used as part of the aiming arrangement both to assist a golfer in squaring the putter and to correctly set up the golfer over a putt.~~

#### Drawings

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION WITH REFERENCE TO THE DRAWINGS

Further features and advantages will be apparent from the following detailed description, given by way of example, of a preferred embodiment taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a elevation view showing the putter head and a portion of the putter shaft;

Fig. 2 is a top view of the putter head and a portion of the putter shaft showing the shaft mark and the center line mark on the putter head; and

Fig. 3 is an elevation view showing a golfer with his eyes aligned with the center line mark on the putter head and the mark on the shaft.

In the drawings, which form a part of this specification.

Fig. 1 is side view of the face of a right handed putter with the shaft attached towards the toe. The numbers in this drawing represent the following part of the putter,

- 1 Shaft
- 2 Alignment mark on top of the shaft which lines up with the centerline on the head.
- 3 Centerline on top of putter head
- 4 Toe
- 5 Heel
- 6 Face
- 8 Sole

Fig. 2 is a top view of a left handed putter. The numbers in the drawing represent the same parts as in Fig. 1 the only different number is 7 Back.

~~Fig. 3 shows a golfer positioned over a putter using this system of putting alignment. It shows the putter pointing towards the golfer with the golfer's eyes clearly over the putter.~~

DETAILED DESCRIPTION WITH REFERENCE TO THE DRAWINGS

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, a putter shaft 1 is attached to a putter head 6 proximate a toe 4 of the putter head 6. The putter head also has a heel 5, a sole 8 and a center line mark 3 which corresponds with a center of gravity of the putter head 6. A mark 2 on the upper side of the shaft 1 is placed so that with the putter in a putting position, the mark 2 is aligned with the center line mark 3 on the top of the putter head 6. The mark on the top of the putter head is perpendicular to a strike face 7 of the putter head 6. The shaft extends from its point of attachment proximate the toe 4 across the center line mark 3 towards a golfer when in the putting position. With the mark on the top of the shaft corresponding to the center of gravity of the shaft when in the putting position, alignment of the mark on the shaft with that on the putter head places the center of gravity along the line through the two marks 2 and 3.

Referring to Fig. 3, a golfer 8 is positioned over a putter 10, with the golfer's eyes over the marks on the shaft and the head 6. Complete alignment is achieved once the strike face 7 is placed perpendicular to the desired direction of travel of a golf ball.

Accordingly, while this invention has been described with reference to illustrative embodiments, this description is not intended to be construed in a limiting sense. Various modifications of the illustratiye embodiments, as well as other embodiments of the invention, will be apparent to persons skilled in the art upon reference to this description. It is therefore contemplated that the appended claims will cover any such modifications or embodiments as fall within the true scope of the invention.